

Dental Radiology Infection Control (9/03)

Infection control practices in dental radiology. Bartoloni JA, Charlton DG, Flint DJ. Gen Dent 2003;51:264-271.

The authors of this article state that the potential for cross-contamination in dental radiology is extremely high, especially if aseptic technique is not practiced while intraoral radiographs are exposed and processed. This article describes specific infection-control practices that are recommended to decrease the potential for cross-contamination in dental radiology and reduce the likelihood of disease transmission.

DIS Comment: Although there is no direct evidence dental radiographic procedures are a major cause of disease transmission, infection-control practices cannot be ignored in dental radiology. This article summarizes basic infection control practices for intra- and extraoral dental radiology procedures and provides practical easy-to-use checklists. The use of personal protective equipment, techniques for aseptic transport of the exposed films to the developing area, environmental surface cleaning and disinfection recommendations, including the use of disposable surface barriers, and sterilization of dental radiographic equipment are reviewed.

